



Massey University  
**Community Gardening Club**

Please find attached our upcoming project to rebuild our garden beds. Enclosed is an application for 100% funding for one garden bed, in order to test the design out and if necessary make revisions, before committing to replacing the remaining beds.

The new garden beds should better serve the needs of the club, and will be much more visually acceptable.



Massey University  
**Community Gardening Club**

*presents*

# **New garden beds**



The original garden beds are made from donated wood, and while this has given the club gardens a unique rustic look, unfortunately some of the beds and frames have not lasted the test of time, and are collapsing.

The local Pukeko population had presented the Club with a constant problem.  
- the Pukekos will happily climb into the garden and pull out the smaller plants. To counter this, frames with wire screens were built over the beds. However, the same screens that keep out the Pukekos also make it difficult for people to get in too.

A long term plan to replace all the bed frames built with macrocarpa sleepers, which will last many years, and come up with a more user friendly pukeko screen.



To the left is the updated design. It is the same length and width as the existing beds, but with a greater height of 600mm.

The wire screens are held in place with hooks, and allows for very easy removal.

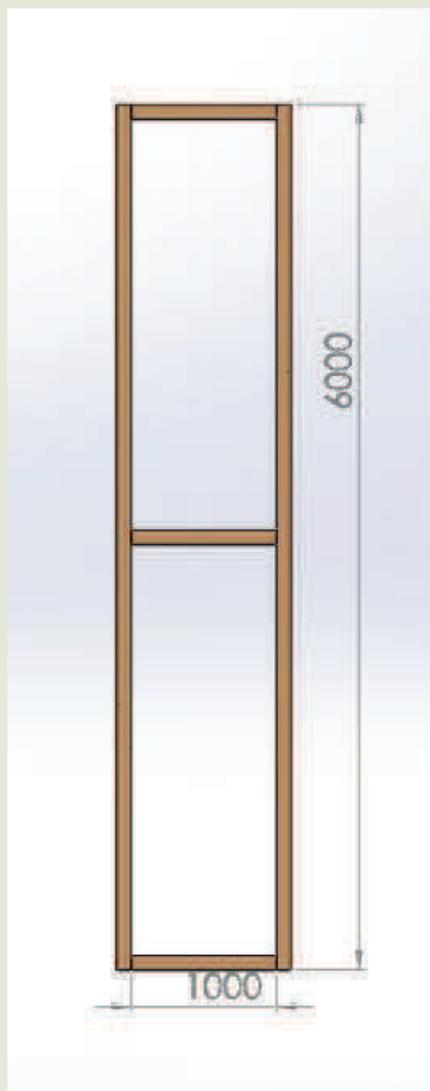
When the plants are large enough, the screens can be removed and used on another garden bed.

### Why raised garden beds?

The land the club gardens are positioned is made up of hard clays, with rocks and fill from construction. These are difficult conditions for plants to thrive. Having raised beds allows you to build up the soil structure resulting in greater yields. It can also help reduce back strain while bending over to tend the gardens.

This new garden bed will replace our existing Bed#1. If the design proves successful, then the plan will be to replace the other 3 beds, and if demand exists add additional beds. Overall this will produce a long lasting and aesthetically pleasing club garden.

## Materials and Costings



### *Garden bed supplied by Redpath*

2x 3m by 1m, 0.6high kitset garden bed delivered  
 (\$590.68+\$85.49+GST) = \$661.40

### *A frame*

100x50 timber, 18meters @ \$3.18/m = \$57.24  
 Framing bracket x 5 @ \$2.48 ea = \$12.40

### *Pukeko screens*

50x25 timber 6.4m ea x 8 @ \$1.68/m = \$85.20  
 Wire screen 24meters @ \$5.42/m = \$130.08  
 Nailplates 4 per screen x 8 @ \$0.69ea = \$22.08

### *Miscellaneous items required for assembly*

Hand saw = \$12.98  
 Drill bit 12mm = \$19.47  
 Drill bit 6mm = \$8.36  
 Drill bit spade 38mm = \$9.17

Also, we would like to fill the gaps between the pavers shown on the front cover with sand. This will make it easier to walk on, and it will provide a total barrier against the intrusion of slugs and snails (they can not walk across sand).

Once the beds are surrounded by the sand barrier, and the existing slugs and snails have been removed, then they will no longer be a problem for that particular bed.

A 20kg bag of sand costs \$8.98 ea. It is possible that ~6 bags would be enough to surround 1 bed  
 = \$53.88

**Grand total comes to \$1072.26**